

The Computer Studies Department encompasses a diverse series of curricula, including: Website Design, Databases, Computer Programming, Graphic Arts and Digital Media, Networking and Security, Help Desk Support and Business Office Applications.

Careers in the Networking arena.

Global demand is growing for ICT (Information Communication Technology) professionals at all levels. Whether our students are beginning, changing, or enhancing their careers—their journey into the world of ICT career possibilities starts here at SRJC.

Career paths often follow anything but a linear progression. Life events, peers and community, even brief exchanges with strangers can influence an individual. See the bio on my home page as an example. <http://online.santarosa.edu/homepage/mmckeeper/>

There are many career specialties in the Networking area, the most common dealing with designing, maintaining and securing Networks (groups of computers and servers and related infrastructure hardware). ICT careers touch just about every sector of the economy. More than half of all jobs require some technology skills; the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that number will reach 77% in the next decade. Our students have come from and gone on to work for Internet Service Providers (including Sonic.net), banks, grocery stores, telecommunication and Fortune 500 companies, hospitals, video production companies and started their own consulting businesses.

The “green” economy presents a world of technical career opportunities as the world shifts toward independent energy sources, reducing consumption and ensuring what we do consume is sustainable. This translates to opportunities in the data center, in “smart grid” systems and technologies such as virtualization and unified communications.

Among the most interesting of ICT jobs are those of Computer Forensics and Information Assurance. Introductory courses in the CS department help prepare students to launch into these specialized professions.

Here is a general article about the Networking field:

<http://compnetworking.about.com/od/itinformationtechnology/l/aa032601a.htm>

and this from the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics:

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos268.htm>